CLAIMS:

- 1. A composition comprising 5-methoxytryptamine or its pharmaceutically acceptable salt and a carrier, excipient or additive; said 5-methoxytryptamine present in an amount effective to prevent mammalian tissue damage.
- 2. The composition as claimed in claim 1 is a form selected from the group consisting of a tablet, capsule, powder, lozenge, solution, syrup, aqueous or oily suspension, elixir, implant, and aqueous or non-aqueous injection.
- 3. The composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the amount of 5-methoxy tryptamine or its salt is from 5 to 500 mg.
 - 4. A composition comprising 5-methoxytryptamine or its pharmaceutically acceptable salt and a carrier, excipient or additive; said 5-methoxy tryptamine present in an amount effective to treat mammalian tissue damage.

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- 5. The composition as claimed in claim 4 is a form selected from the group consisting of a tablet, capsule, powder, lozenge, solution, syrup, aqueous or oily suspension, elixir, implant, and aqueous or non-aqueous injection.
- 750 6. The composition as claimed in claim 4 wherein the amount of 5-methoxy tryptamine or its salt is from 5 to 500 mg.
 - 7. A composition comprising 5-methoxytryptamine or its pharmaceutically acceptable salt and a carrier, excipient or additive.

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8. The composition as claimed in claim 7 is a form selected from the group consisting of a tablet, capsule, powder, lozenge, solution, syrup, aqueous or oily suspension, elixir, implant, and aqueous or non-aqueous injection.

- 760 9. The composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein the amount of 5-Methoxy tryptamine or its salt is ranges from 5 to 500 mg.
 - 10. A method for preventing tissue damage caused by exposure to an oxygen reactive species, comprising administering an amount of 5-Methoxytryptamine or a salt thereof effective to prevent tissue damage to a patient in need thereof.
 - 11. The method of claim 10, where the tissue is myocardium.

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- 12. The method of claim 10 wherein the amount of 5-methoxytryptamine or its salt is 0.7 to 7.0 mg/kg body weight.
 - 13. A method for treating tissue damage caused by exposure to an oxygen reactive species, comprising administering an amount of 5- Methoxytryptamine or a salt thereof effective to prevent tissue damage to a patient in need thereof.

14. The method of claim 13, where the tissue is myocardium.

- 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the amount of 5-Methoxytryptamine or its salt is 0.7 to 7.0 mg/kg body weight.
- 16. A method for treating cardiac toxicity, myocardial ischemia, myocardial infarction or heart failure comprising administering an effective amount of 5-Methoxy tryptamine or a salt thereof to a patient in need thereof.
- 785 17. The method according to claim 16 wherein, the cardiac toxicity is induced by an anthracycline antineoplastic.
 - 18. The method of claim 16, wherein the amount of 5-Methoxytryptamine or its salt is 0.7 to 7.0 mg/kg body weight.
 - 19. A method for increasing the activity of superoxide dismutase enzyme in a tissue of a patient comprising administering to the patient an amount of 5-Methoxy

tryptamine or a salt thereof effective to increase the activity of superoxide dismutase enzyme.

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- 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the tissue is myocardium.
- 21. A method for treating cardiac toxicity, myocardial ischemia, mycocardial infarction or heart failure comprising administration of an amount of 5-Methoxy tryptamine or a salt thereof effective to increase the activity of superoxide dismutase enzyme to a patient in need of such treatment.
- 22. A method for inhibiting lipid peroxidation in a tissue of a patient comprising administering to the patient an amount of 5-Methoxytryptamine or a salt thereof effective to inhibit the lipid peroxidation.
 - 23. The method of claim 22, wherein the tissue is myocardium.
- 24. A method for treating cardiac toxicity, myocardial ischemia, mycocardial infarction or heart failure comprising administration of an amount of 5-Methoxy tryptamine or a salt thereof effective to inhibit lipid peroxidation to a patient in need of such treatment.
- 25. A method for reducing levels of creatine kinase-MB in a tissue of a patient comprising administering to the patient an amount of 5-Methoxytryptamine or a salt thereof effective to reduce the level of creatine kinase-MB.
 - 26. The method of claim 25, wherein the tissue is myocardium.

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- 27. A method for reducing levels of lactate dehydrogenase in a tissue of a patient comprising administering to the patient an amount of 5-Methoxy tryptamine or a salt thereof effective to reduce the level of lactate dehydrogenase.
- 28. The method according to claim 10 wherein the tissue is liver, kidney, intestine, pancreas or brain.

- 29. The method according to claim 13 wherein the tissue is liver, kidney, intestine, pancreas or brain.
- 30. The method according to claim 19 wherein the tissue is liver, kidney, intestine, pancreas or brain.
- 830 31. The method according to claim 22 wherein the tissue is liver, kidney, intestine, pancreas or brain.
 - 32. The method according to claim 27 wherein the tissue is myocardium, liver, kidney, intestine, pancreas or brain.